Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota was established by people with hard work, perseverance and dedication to provide for their families and their fellow man; and,

Whereas, The culture of the Native American citizens in this state is an important component of both their rich history as well as their everyday lives; and,

Whereas, John Around Him has played a vital role in assisting Native American state prison inmates maintain their connection with their culture by helping to lead Inipi ceremonies and spiritual conferences, by serving as master of ceremony at prison Pow Wows and by attending Medicine Man conferences; and,

Whereas, John is a valuable resource to Department of Corrections staff by providing training for staff and serving as tribal liaison; and,

Whereas, John served his state and country proudly during the Vietnam War; and,

Whereas, John is memorialized at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, where his voice and words are prominently displayed representing Lakota spirituality and culture; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to recognize the leadership and commitment of John Around Him to his fellow South Dakotans for his dedicated and outstanding service to this country and state:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 28, 2006, as

JOHN AROUND HIM DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State